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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Information Service
821 Market Street, Room 609
San Francisco 3, California

May 7, 1946

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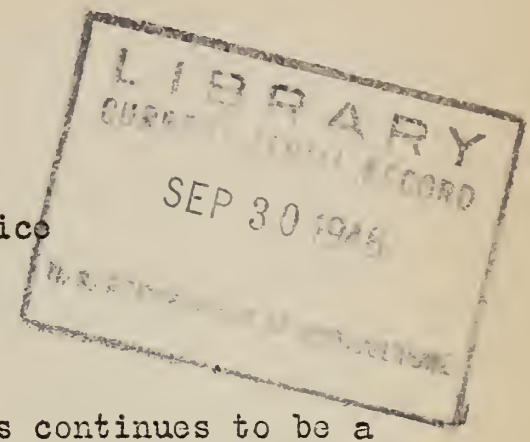

San Francisco Wholesale Markets
USDA FOOD BULLETIN
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - The civilian outlook for increased butter supplies continues to be a gloomy one. The rate of production gain has been smaller than anticipated. San Francisco butter sales for the week ending April 27 increased 17%, but were still 34% below last year. On April 30 the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that creamery butter producers would be required to set aside 20% of their production during May and June for sale to War Service Agencies.

Eggs - Plentiful egg supplies see no great change on the market, as demand continues good for all grades, surplus top grades move into storage, and prices remain at 40½¢ for Grade A Large, 37½¢ for Mediums, and 33½¢ for Smalls.

Poultry - Fryers and roasters continue scarce, but other classes of poultry have been sufficient to meet demands. As a result of reduction in grain feeds for poultry, Leghorn fowl continue to arrive on the market in heavy supply. Broilers, fryers, roasters, and large sized fowl have advanced 4/10¢; small fowl remain unchanged.

MEAT

Beef - A slight increase in cattle receipts this week saw a few more grass fed cattle coming in from nearby areas. Demand has been good for smaller offerings of beef going into retail channels, where there has been a wide range of quality with Choice beef in less liberal supply.

Lamb - The supply of lamb has held to last week's liberal amount, with Good and Choice grades continuing to make up the bulk of it.

Pork - Hog receipts this week were 100 head above those of last week to result in a little more liberal supply of fresh pork cuts reaching retail outlets.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Citrus fruits remain the best buys with plentiful supplies of grapefruit topping the list. Oranges are now in moderate supply at ceiling prices. Lemons enjoy moderate supplies with the large sizes selling at the new ceiling. Strawberries in moderate supply are still a little bit high priced. Cherries are ripe, with the first of the season coming in from the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys to sell at ceiling.

Among the good vegetable buys we have artichokes in good supply and fairly cheap, asparagus a little bit higher, old and new potatoes, especially those nice quality ones coming in from Kern County, and soft squash from Tulare County at a good price. On the fair buy list we find broccoli lower priced, cabbage, cauliflower in moderate supply, celery fairly cheap, lettuce in heavy supply, dry onions in good supply and cheaper, peas, spinach, and Imperial and Coachella tomatoes, some selling below ceiling.

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SEP 30

San Francisco Wholesale Markets
USDA FOOD BULLETIN
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - The butter supply dearth continues. For the week ending May 9, creamery butter production gained only 2% from the previous week. The effects of the 20% "set-aside" are being felt as distributors report increased difficulty in obtaining butter shipments from the Central West, where plastic cream prices of 80 to 83¢ are attracting much of the sweet cream normally used for the manufacture of butter.

Eggs - Heavy egg supplies are enjoying a good demand at unchanged wholesale prices of 40½¢ for Grade A Large, 37½¢ for Mediums, and 33½¢ for Smalls. It is believed that the peak of production was reached near the end of April and that supplies will decrease from now on. Surplus top grade eggs are being placed in storage.

Poultry - There have been no startling changes on the poultry market since last week. Live poultry receipts over the end of the week were larger than expected, but there have been no price changes and no visible effects of advanced feed grain prices. Leghorn fowl continue heaviest in supply at 21 to 22¢ for light weights and 24 to 26¢ per pound for heavier weights, with surplus going into storage.

MEAT

Beef - Even though the total head of cattle received on the market this past week exceeded by 300 the number received the previous week, local slaughterers had difficulty fulfilling daily requirements. There was a wide quality range of Utility to Good grades with more cow beef in evidence.

Lamb - Sheep receipts for the past week were 300 head below those of the week before. Spring lambs made up the bulk of slaughter, but toward the close of the week there was a wider quality and weight range and ewe mutton was more plentiful.

Pork - The hog market this past week saw no change in receipts with the result that fresh pork cuts have been in limited supply at strong demand.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Although the fruit season is beginning to add more items to the list of available fruits, grapefruit remains the best buy. Oranges continue in moderate supply to sell at ceiling or just below ceiling, while moderate supplies of lemons are selling mostly below ceiling. Strawberries are in moderate supply but are still fairly high priced. Fairly plentiful supplies of cherries are selling below the old ceiling price, which was removed last week. Cantaloups, the season's first, have arrived at market.

Potatoes, both old and new, and soft squash are the two best vegetable buys. Included among the fairly good buys are artichokes, asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery (lower priced), lettuce (little higher), onions (lower priced), peas, spinach, and tomatoes. Beans, corn, cucumbers and peppers are still limited in supply and high.

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San Francisco Wholesale Markets
USDA FOOD BULLETIN
From Federal-State Market News Service
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - Scarce is still the word to describe the butter supply. For the West as a whole, creamery butter production gained 3% for the week ending May 16, but was 37% less than last year. Along with the slight production gain, set-aside orders and over-ceiling operations are taking their toll of receipts. As a result San Francisco retail sales dropped 16% for the week ending May 11.

Eggs - Supplies of eggs are plentiful. Even though production is showing the seasonal decline from week to week, receipts are above those of last year. Over the end of the week a large volume of top grade eggs moved into retail outlets. Prices remain at 40½¢ per dozen for Grade A Large, 37½¢ for Mediums, and 33½¢ for Smalls.

Poultry - This past week saw liberal receipts of live poultry on the market and, while they were readily absorbed, it is believed that the reduction in poultry feed and higher prices will result in larger marketings of Leghorn fowl. Young chickens and colored fowl are light in supply. Prices for all classes remain unchanged.

MEAT

Beef - the last week has seen very little change on the available beef supply. Total cattle receipts were slightly lower. Although local plants had a slight increase in slaughter quota, some smaller out-of-town plants had less. Range of quality was from Utility to Good with some Choice grade. Demand was good for all grades.

Lamb - Sheep receipts this past week were 2,900 head greater than the week before. There was a liberal lamb slaughter with the quality the highest of the year. Many coolers displayed Choice grade and only a small amount of Utility grade.

Pork - With practically no change in hog receipts, the past week saw hardly enough pork cuts to display at retail. Although pork slaughter was permitted a 10%- advance, no additional hogs were available.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Grapefruit remains the best fruit buy with no price changes. Oranges are in moderate supply at ceiling. Avocados in moderate supply are moderately priced. Strawberries are pretty high. Youngberries are on the market, but high. Cherries include mostly Tartarians at last week's prices. Sacramento Valley apricots are beginning to come in. Fair supplies of cantaloups are selling at ceiling. Tomorrow should see watermelons from Imperial Valley, but they will be high.

Celery, lower priced, dry onions in good supply, good quality new potatoes, and soft squash, especially the yellow crookneck, are the best vegetable buys. Fair to good buys include lettuce and old potatoes. Asparagus, broccoli, cabbage in better supply and quality, cauliflower, peas, spinach, and good quality Coachella Valley tomatoes are the week's fair buys.

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May 28, 1946

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San Francisco Wholesale Markets
USDA FOOD BULLETIN
From Federal-State Market News Service
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

DAIRY AND POULTRY

Butter - Supplies of butter remain critically short, especially for civilians. Production is low -- 33% below last year for the week ending May 23. Then, too, on May 24, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that creameries will be required to continue the 20% "set-aside" during the month of June for sale to military and war service agencies.

Eggs - For eggs, the story is about the same as for last week. They are plentiful at unchanged prices of 40½¢ per dozen for Grade A Large, 37½¢ for Mediums, and 33½¢ for Smalls. Demand is better for top quality eggs than it is for the Mediums and Smalls.

Poultry - There have been increased supplies of live Leghorn fowl on the market this past week. Prices have dropped 3 cents on the heavier weights. Broilers have enjoyed a better supply, but fryers and roasters remain scarce. Demand for dressed poultry has been greater, with distributors unable to fill all orders for fryers and roasters.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Even though supplies of other fresh fruits and berries continue to increase, grapefruit remains the best buy. Oranges in plentiful supply are a good buy, but slightly higher because of the new ceiling price imposed last Monday. Lemons and avocados are fair buys. Apricots are in heavier supply. Among the berries, youngberries are the most reasonable in price and the best buy -- if you have some sugar. Plentiful supplies of strawberries are still high priced. Cherries are plentiful, but high. Cantaloups are selling at ceiling and watermelons are in light supply and high.

Heading the list of the best vegetable buys are new potatoes, especially the red ones, soft squash with Italian squash beginning to come in from San Luis Obispo, and dry onions in heavy supply and fairly cheap. Ice packed carrots are cheaper. In the fair buy class we have artichokes, higher, asparagus, cabbage, cauliflower, a little higher, celery, higher, eggplant in heavier supply and lower priced, peas, and spinach, higher. Corn is coming down in price, but is still pretty high. The season's first Tulare county tomatoes have arrived at market, and we can look for more of these. Cucumbers and peppers continue in light supply and high.

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